



## Robert "Buddy" Paupore

May 1, 1983 - February 28, 2025

Robert Elliott "Buddy" Paupore, 41, of Kingsford passed away unexpectedly on Friday, Feb. 28, 2025, at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, WI.

He was born in Iron Mountain on May 1, 1983, the son of Paul and Karen (Swanson) Paupore. Buddy graduated from Kingsford High School in 2002. After graduation, he worked at Wendy's, Four Seasons Beer Distributors, and most recently as a courier for UPS. While life threw Buddy several highs and lows, his top two most important life events were the births of his two children. He had a heart of gold and was always wearing a big smile. When Buddy was on his best behavior you could often find him going the extra mile at work or volunteering in the soup kitchen. While he was on less than his best behavior, Buddy could often be found getting into "innocent" mischief with his friends or his nephew and partner-in-crime, Tim, tinkering and coming up with unique solutions to problems. Buddy also enjoyed hunting, shooting, or just spending time with the ones he loved. Every visit and every phone call with Buddy ended with "Love you, bye".

Buddy will be deeply missed by his Mother, Karen; 2 children, Jayce and Arieana Paupore; the mother of his children, Dana Spruce, and her other 3 children, Issah Spruce, Wyatt Spruce, and Raiden Jensen; brother-in-law, Craig (Erin) Recla; his best friend and nephew, Tim Recla II; aunts and uncles, Tim & Renee Swanson, Sheryl & Gary Steindler, Pam & Dennis Smart, Cindi

& Brad Strehlow, Jan Romaker, Tim & Laurie Teason, Jo Paupore, and Al Dumais; and many other friends and family, including the “Bad Cousins Club”.

He is preceded in death by his father, Paul; sister, Jessica Recla; uncle, Robert Paupore; his Granny and Papa, Carmen and Jim Swanson; and grandparents, Rita and Bud Paupore.

Buddy’s family would like to thank the staff at Bellin for not giving up and the staff of Marshfield Medical Center - Dickinson for their excellent care.

Visitation will be at Trinity United Methodist Church, 808 Carpenter Ave., from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 8, 2025, with Rev. Crystal Thomas officiating the funeral service at 12:00 p.m.

Condolences may be expressed to the family of Robert “Buddy” Paupore online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
808 Carpenter Ave  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801-4704  
(906) 774-2545

## Funeral Service

MAR 8. 12:00 PM (CT)

Trinity United Methodist Church  
808 Carpenter Ave  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801-4704  
(906) 774-2545

# Tribute Wall

GL

“ I would like to express my deepest and sincerest condolences, to Buddy’s Family and to his Friends as well. I met Buddy when we both worked at Wendy’s, in the 1990’s as we had a great group there, and many of us, have remained Friends, over the years!! Buddy had a great sense of humor, and made it fun, for all of us, who were lucky enough to work with him, and got to know him.. He used to draw on my Amazon boxes, when he worked at UPS, and was my driver!  
Buddy, you will be missed by many, including me, and our whole gang from Wendy’s.  
“Only the good, die young”  
Gene Levenburg & Family

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**Gene Levenburg** - March 08, 2025 at 03:03 PM

MC

“ I went to Bay College with Buddy between '05-'07. Buddy was in a few of my classes and would be in the same small groups sometimes--broke my heart for his really close friends and family to hear he passed. I worked at Walmart for nearly 15 years and he would stop to say hello with a smile each time I saw him/his family. He will br missed by so very many people--thinking of you all. ♥♥♥

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**Michelle Connell** - March 07, 2025 at 10:01 PM

JA

“ I have so many stories about Buddy from the time we worked at Wendy's together.. We always joked around and played tricks on each other, sometimes to extremes that most would see as a war. He always wanted to be the last one to do "it", whatever it may be..

One story that stands out more than any is the time we had temps below freezing and Buddy went to the casino but left his car at Wendy's to carhop with 2 other workers. Over the course of a few hours I dumped 100's of gallons of water over his car until it had a layer of ice an inch thick. I thought it was hilarious, Buddy even laughed about it and at the end of the night I knew I shouldn't have pushed him that far. My vehicle's windshield was covered in every condiment you could think of.. He went to Super One and bought it all to "decorate" it with and that was the very last time we ever played tricks on each other.

We've been friends ever since, maybe not as close as we were when working together but we always stopped to talk when we seen each other. I just saw him a few weeks back, or so it felt. Gone far too soon at 41, he had so much more to give life and those 2 wonderful kids he loved dearly.

I'll miss you Buddy, you sure left me some great memories of our adventures.

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**Jason Asselin** - March 07, 2025 at 06:25 PM

UP

“ UPS purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert "Buddy" Paupore.



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**UPS** - March 07, 2025 at 02:51 PM

UP

“ UPS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert "Buddy" Paupore.

UPS - March 07, 2025 at 02:51 PM

LT

“ Our sympathies and prayers go out to you all for the loss of your "Buddy". God be with you all 🙏

Larry and Carol Trevillian - March 07, 2025 at 02:20 PM

MA

“ <https://youtu.be/wGmDu5iDB34?si=IU0o-az2sZzZkUgg>

Mandi - March 05, 2025 at 04:08 AM

ER

*This is beautiful. Thank you for sharing it*

Erin Recla - March 07, 2025 at 10:05 AM